Modifiers Mastery Quiz

20 Questions on Identifying Modifiers & Correcting Errors (Student Worksheet)

Grammar & Writing Practice Worksheet

Part 1: Identifying Modifiers (Questions 1–8)

Task: Identify the main modifying word or phrase in each sentence.

1. The exhausted runner collapsed across the finish line.

A) runner
B) exhausted
C) collapsed
D) line

2. She walked quietly into the library to avoid disturbing others.

A) walked
B) library
C) quietly
D) others

3. The car parked under the tree was covered in fallen leaves.

A) car
B) parked under the tree
C) was covered
D) fallen leaves

4. Whistling a cheerful tune, the mechanic fixed the car engine.

A) Whistling a cheerful tune
B) the mechanic
C) fixed
D) car engine

5. The detective examined the document with extreme caution.

A) detective
B) examined
C) document
D) with extreme caution

6. Students who complete their work early may leave the classroom.

A) Students
B) who complete their work early
C) may leave
D) classroom

7. The brightly lit room made reading very comfortable.

A) brightly lit
B) room

C) made
D) comfortable

8. Built in 1920, the historic mansion required extensive renovation.

A) Built in 1920
B) historic mansion
C) required
D) renovation

Part 2: Misplaced Modifiers (Questions 9–13)

Task: Choose the correctly written sentence that eliminates the misplaced modifier.

9. *Faulty:* "The waiter served a pizza to the customer that was burning hot."

A) Serving pizza to the customer, it was burning hot.
B) The waiter served a pizza that was burning hot to the customer.
C) To the customer, the waiter served pizza burning hot.
D) The waiter served to the customer a burning hot that was pizza.

10. *Faulty:* "I found a shiny gold woman's ring on the pavement."

A) I found a woman's shiny gold ring on the pavement.
B) On the pavement, a shiny gold woman found a ring.
C) Shiny gold, I found a woman's ring on the pavement.
D) I found on the pavement a ring of a shiny gold woman.

11. *Faulty:* "She almost drove for five hours without taking a break."

A) Almost driving for five hours, she took no break.
B) She drove for almost five hours without taking a break.
C) For five hours without a break, she almost drove.
D) She drove without a break almost for five hours.

12. *Faulty:* "The dog barked at the stranger with a loud growl."

A) With a loud growl, the stranger was barked at by the dog.
B) The dog with a loud growl barked at the stranger.
C) Barking at the stranger, a loud growl was made.
D) The dog barked with a loud growl at the stranger.

13. *Faulty:* "They read a report about recycling in the library."

A) In the library, they read a report about recycling.
B) Reading in the library, a recycling report was found.
C) They read in the library recycling reports.
D) A report was read by them in the library recycling.

Part 3: Dangling Modifiers (Questions 14–18)

Task: Choose the option that correctly fixes the dangling modifier.

14. *Faulty:* "Walking to the store, the rain started pouring."

A) Walking to the store, rain poured on us.
B) As I was walking to the store, the rain started pouring.
C) The rain started pouring, walking to the store.
D) Walking to the store, pouring rain started.

15. *Faulty:* "Having finished the assignment, the TV was turned on."

A) Having finished the assignment, Alex turned on the TV.
B) The TV was turned on, having finished the assignment.
C) Having finished the assignment, turning on the TV happened.
D) Finished with the assignment, the TV turned on.

16. *Faulty:* "To pass the exam, thorough preparation is necessary."

A) To pass the exam, thorough preparation must be done.
B) Thorough preparation is necessary to pass the exam.
C) To pass the exam, students must prepare thoroughly.
D) Passing the exam requires thorough preparation necessary.

17. *Faulty:* "Covered in thick mud, Sarah washed the boots."

A) Sarah washed the boots covered in thick mud.
B) Washing the boots, thick mud covered Sarah.
C) Covered in thick mud, washing boots was done by Sarah.
D) Sarah covered in thick mud washed the boots.

18. *Faulty:* "While waiting for the bus, a wallet was found on the bench."

A) While waiting for the bus, the bench had a wallet.
B) While waiting for the bus, Mark found a wallet on the bench.
C) A wallet was found on the bench while waiting for the bus.
D) Waiting for the bus, finding a wallet happened on the bench.

Part 4: Sentence Revision & Analysis (Questions 19–20)

19. Which sentence contains NO modifier errors?

A) Soaring high in the sky, the eagle spotted a mouse below.
B) Soaring high in the sky, a mouse was spotted by the eagle.
C) The eagle spotted a mouse below soaring high in the sky.
D) Soaring high in the sky, mouse spotting was done by the eagle.

20. What word is being modified by the phrase: "Running through the park, Leo felt energized."?

A) park
B) energized
C) Leo
D) felt

Answer Key & Explanations

1. B (**exhausted** modifies "runner")

2. C (**quietly** modifies "walked")

3. B (**parked under the tree** modifies "car")

4. A (**Whistling a cheerful tune** modifies "mechanic")

5. D (**with extreme caution** modifies "examined")

6. B (**who complete...** modifies "Students")

7. A (**brightly lit** modifies "room")

8. A (**Built in 1920** modifies "mansion")

9. B ("burning hot" must be next to "pizza")

10. A ("woman's" modifies "ring", not "gold")

11. B ("almost" modifies "five hours")

12. B / **D** ("with a loud growl" describes the dog's action)

13. A ("in the library" clarifies where reading happened)

14. B (Adds the missing subject "I")

15. A (Adds the missing subject "Alex")

16. C (Places "students" right after modifier)

17. A (Places modifier next to "boots")

18. B (Adds the subject "Mark")

19. A (Correct introductory modifier placement)

20. C (The phrase describes "Leo")